

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-20. (cancelled)

21. (New) A self-propelled mower comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of ground engaging wheels supporting said frame;

an internal combustion engine outputting mechanical motion;

an electrical generator operably coupled with said internal combustion engine, said electrical generator outputting electrical energy in response to said mechanical motion;

an electric wheel motor operably coupled between said electrical generator and at least one of said plurality of ground engaging wheels for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel in response to said electrical energy; and

a cutting device supported by said frame, said cutting device being operably driven by said internal combustion engine.

22. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 21, further comprising a drive system for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel, wherein said drive system comprises:

a motor control device for driving said electric wheel motor;

an output shaft extending from said electric wheel motor and rotatably driven in response thereto; and

a differential interposed between said output shaft and an axle, said axle connecting to said ground engaging wheels.

23. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 22 wherein said drive system is electrically connected to a plurality of batteries charged by said electrical generator.

24. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 22, further comprising:

a main controller operably coupled to at least one of said cutting device and said electric wheel motor.

25. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 24 wherein said drive system is operably connected to said main controller.

26. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 24 further comprising an operator control panel operably connected to said main controller, said operator control panel providing at least one reel control signal to said main controller.

27. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 26 wherein said main controller delivers said at least one reel control signal to at least one reel control motor for controlling at least one of a plurality of functions performed by said cutting device.

28. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 27 wherein said plurality of functions includes changing a cutting speed and changing a cutting position of said cutting device.

29. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 21, further comprising:
a gear reduction device operably coupled between said electric wheel motor and said at least one ground engaging wheel.

30. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 21, further comprising:
a hydraulic drive system operably coupled between said cutting device and said internal combustion engine, said hydraulic drive system operably driving said cutting device.

31. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 21, further comprising:
a hydraulic drive system operably coupled between said cutting device and said internal combustion engine, said hydraulic drive system operably driving said cutting device.

32. (New) A self-propelled mower comprising:

- a frame;
- a plurality of ground engaging wheels supporting said frame;
- an internal combustion engine outputting mechanical motion;
- an electrical generator operably coupled with said internal combustion engine, said electrical generator outputting electrical energy in response to said mechanical motion;
- an electric wheel motor operably coupled between said electrical generator and at least one of said plurality of ground engaging wheels for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel in response to said electrical energy;
- a cutting device supported by said frame, said cutting device being operably driven by said internal combustion engine; and
- a main controller operably coupled to at least one of said cutting device and said electric wheel motor.

33. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 32, further comprising a drive system for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel, wherein said drive system comprises:

- a motor control device for driving said electric wheel motor;
- an output shaft extending from said electric wheel motor and rotatably driven in response thereto; and
- a differential interposed between said output shaft and an axle, said axle connecting to said at least one ground engaging wheel.

34. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 33 wherein said drive system is electrically connected to a plurality of batteries charged by said electrical generator.

35. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 33 wherein said drive system is operably connected to said main controller.

36. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 32 further comprising an operator control panel operably connected to said main controller, said operator control panel providing at least one reel control signal to said main controller.

37. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 36 wherein said main controller delivers said at least one reel control signal to at least one reel control motor for controlling at least one of a plurality of functions performed by said cutting device.

38. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 37 wherein said plurality of functions includes changing a cutting speed and changing a cutting position of said cutting device.

39. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 32, further comprising:
a gear reduction device operably coupled between said electric wheel motor and said at least one ground engaging wheel.

40. (New) The self-propelled mower of Claim 32, further comprising:
a hydraulic drive system operably coupled between said cutting device and said internal combustion engine, said hydraulic drive system operably driving said cutting device.